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CITY OF TUCSON
Steve Kozachik
Council Member

November 17, 2014

Chairman Bob Stump
Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners' Wing
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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RE: Arizona's Energy Efficiency Standards

Dear Mr. Stump;

In 2010, in separate votes, the Arizona Corporation Commission unanimously adopted energy efficiency standards that would be applicable to both electric and natural gas utilities. The policies were adopted on a bipartisan basis. The current plan to roll back those standards is both unnecessary and counter-productive.

The policy as adopted is projected to save consumers nearly \$9 billion on their utility bills through 2020. Additional benefits include conservation of water and reduced pollution. Energy efficiency is widely recognized as the least costly manner by which utilities can meet electricity demand. It is less than half the cost of the construction of new natural gas-fired plants per kilowatt hour, and far less than the cost of newly built nuclear or coal plants. The policy as originally adopted is working, is saving consumers money, is reducing pollution, and is saving precious non-renewable resources.

Arizona is recognized nationally as a leader in energy efficiency achievements. As recently as this fall, the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, in comparing 2013 with the prior year, ranked Arizona as number 4 in the nation for the amount of electricity saved by its utility customers. We conserved more than 1.3 million megawatt hours of electricity last year. The proposal to eliminate the standards that have led to these impressive results will only result in more negative publicity for this State. Haven't we seen enough of that?

Mr. Pierce, I'm sure you're aware that between TEP and APS in 2013, customers saved nearly \$80 million on their utility bills. The unanimous, bipartisan efficiency standards are the reason. We all benefit from the policies that are in place. I join millions of Arizonans in hoping your Commission will see the wisdom in leaving those standards in place and allowing Arizona to continue its leadership role in this fundamentally important area.

Thanks very much for your consideration,

Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
City of Tucson

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